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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended)

An electrophotographic photoreceptor having an interlayer and a photosensitive layer on an electroconductive substrate, wherein the interlayer comprises ~~any one of 1)~~ an N-type semiconductive particle comprising ~~at least one or more of~~ transition metals having an atomic number of 21 to 30, 39, 41 to 48 and 57 to 80, a total amount of the transition metals having an atomic number of 21 to 30, 39, 41 to 48 and 57 to 80 being from 100 ppm to 2.0% by mass, ~~or 2) a metal oxide particle comprising a silicon atom in a bond energy spectrum by an X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy at a ratio represented by the following Formula (1):~~

Formula (1)

$$0.02 \leq Si/M \leq 0.55$$

~~Si: a peak intensity of a silicon atom among the bond energy spectrum, and~~

~~M: a peak intensity of a metal atom among the bond energy spectrum.~~

2. (Cancelled)

## 3. (Currently Amended)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the N-type semiconductive particle is comprises an anatase-type titanium oxide pigment.

## 4. (Currently Amended)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the N-type semiconductive particle contains a metal oxide selected from titanium oxide, ~~lead~~ zinc oxide and tin oxide.

## 5. (Currently Amended)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~transition metal~~ is a transition metal N-type semiconductive particle comprises one or more of the transition metals having an atomic number of 21 to 30, 39 and 41 to 48.

## 6. (Currently Amended)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the one or more transition ~~metal~~ metals is a niobium element having an atomic number of 41.

## 7. (Currently Amended)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein a surface roughness Rz of the electroconductive substrate is from 0.5 to 2.5  $\mu\text{m}$ .

## 8. (Original)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 3, wherein an anatase degree of the anatase-type titanium oxide pigment is from 90 to 100%.

## 9. (Original)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 1, wherein the N-type semiconductive particle is surface-treated by a reactive organic silicon compound.

## 10. (Currently Amended)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein comprising a plurality of the N-type semiconductive particle has having a number average primary particle diameter of from 10 nm to 200 nm.

## 11. (Original)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 1, wherein a film thickness T of the interlayer has a relation represented by the following Formula (1) with the surface roughness Rz:

## Formula (1)

$$0.7Rz \leq T \leq 20 \text{ } (\mu\text{m}) .$$

## 12. (Cancelled)

## 13. (Currently Amended)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the interlayer contains a resin having fusion heat of from 0 to 40 J/g.

## 14. (Currently Amended)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 1, wherein the interlayer contains a ~~rein~~ resin having a water absorption coefficient of 5% by mass or less.

## 15. (Currently Amended)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 13, wherein the interlayer contains a ~~rein~~ resin having a water absorption coefficient of 5% by mass or less.

## 16. (Original)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 15, wherein a surface roughness Rz of the electroconductive substrate is from 0.5 to 2.5  $\mu\text{m}$ .

## 17. (Original)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 15, wherein a film thickness T of the interlayer has a relation represented by the following Formula (1) with the surface roughness Rz:

Formula (1)

$$0.7Rz \leq T \leq 20 \quad (\mu\text{m}).$$

## 18. (Original)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 14, wherein  
~~the resin is an alcohol soluble polyamide.~~

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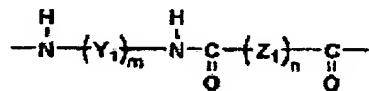
## 19. (Original)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 8, wherein the transition metal is a niobium element having an atomic number of 41.

## 20. (Original)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 18, wherein the resin is a polyamide having a repeating unit structure represented by the following Formula (3):

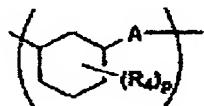
Formula (3)



(wherein  $\text{Y}_1$  represents a group containing a divalent alkyl-substituted cycloalkane,  $\text{Z}_1$  represents a methylene group,  $m$  represents a natural number of 1 to 3 and  $n$  represents a natural number of 3 to 20).

## 21. (Original)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 20, wherein the  $\text{Y}_1$  has the following chemical structure:



(wherein  $A$  represents a single bond or a 1-4C alkylene group,  $R_4$  represents an alkyl group and  $p$  represents a natural number of 1 to 5).

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Original)

An apparatus comprising the electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 1, and at least one of a charging unit for uniformly charging the electrophotographic photoreceptor, a latent image forming unit for forming an electrostatic latent image on the charged electrophotographic photoreceptor, a developing unit for visualizing the electrostatic latent image formed on the electrophotographic photoreceptor, a transferring unit for transferring to a transfer material the toner image visualized on the electrophotographic photoreceptor, a charge removing unit for removing a charge on the electrophotographic photoreceptor after the transfer, and a cleaning unit for removing the residual toner on the electrophotographic photoreceptor after the transfer.

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24. (Original)

The apparatus of claim 23, which comprises an electrophotographic photoreceptor integrally supported with at least one of a charging unit for uniformly charging said electrophotographic photoreceptor, a latent image forming unit for forming an electrostatic latent image on the charged electrophotographic photoreceptor, a developing unit for

visualizing the electrostatic latent image on said electrophotographic photoreceptor, a transferring unit for transferring to a transfer material the toner image visualized on said electrophotographic photoreceptor, a charge removing unit for removing a charge on said electrophotographic photoreceptor after the transfer, and a cleaning unit for removing the residual toner on said electrophotographic photoreceptor after the transfer.

25. (Currently Amended)

The apparatus of claim 23, which comprises an electrophotographic photoreceptor, with a charging unit for uniformly charging the electrophotographic photoreceptor, a latent image forming unit for forming an electrostatic latent image on the charged electrophotographic photoreceptor, a developing unit for visualizing the electrostatic latent image formed on the electrophotographic photoreceptor to form a toner image, and a transferring unit for transferring to a transfer material the visualized toner image on said electrophotographic photoreceptor.

[Claim 26] ~~The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the charging unit is a contact charging system.~~

## 26. (Original)

The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the charging unit is a contact charging system.

## 27. (New)

An electrophotographic photoreceptor having an interlayer and a photosensitive layer on an electroconductive substrate, wherein the interlayer comprises a metal oxide particle comprising a niobium element and a silicon atom in a bond energy spectrum by an X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy at a ratio represented by the following Formula (1):

Formula (1)

$$0.02 \leq Si/M \leq 0.55$$

Si: a peak intensity of a silicon atom among the bond energy spectrum, and

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M: a peak intensity of a metal atom among the bond energy spectrum.

## 28. (New)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 27, wherein the metal oxide particle comprises titanium oxide and the Formula (1) is represented as follows:

Formula (1)

$$0.02 \leq Si/Ti \leq 0.55$$

Si: a peak intensity of a silicon atom among the bond energy spectrum, and

Ti: a peak intensity of a metal atom among the bond energy spectrum.

29. (New)

The electrophotographic photoreceptor of claim 28, wherein the metal oxide particle comprises anatase-type titanium oxide.

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